



# The Town Crier

City of Algona

FEBRUARY 2015

## MONTHLY WATER READING

In an effort to bring your water use to a more manageable level, we will begin reading water meters every month. Up until now, the meters were read every other month, resulting in two months worth of water use on bills received during the odd months of the year. By reading monthly, residents can identify unusual water usage, such as leaks, more quickly and help reduce the amount of water loss as well as a higher water charge.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact a customer service representative at City Hall.

## RATE INCREASES

Due to escalated rates for the purchase of water, as well as King County sewer increases, residential utility rates are increasing. Water rates are increasing 10%, sewer rates are increasing 12%, and storm water rates are increasing \$2.00. New rates will begin January 2015 and will reflect on the January 31 statement.

Commercial/Industrial rates are increasing as well.

## Kid's Science Workshop!

### Topic: Detective Science

Visit the scene of the crime as we create a "crime lab" for this exciting exploration of the fundamentals of forensics. This workshop is open to grades K—5th, and will take place on Thursday, February 26, from 7-8 PM at the City of Algona Council Chambers. Cost is free, but registration is limited to the first 20 students. Call Kevin at 253-833-2897 for registration information.

### Fact:

*Keeping pollutants out of the water isn't just a good idea - it's the law. The Washington State Water Pollution Control Law (RCW 90.48) and the King County Code (KCC 9.12) prohibit the discharge of pollutants to the storm drainage system, surface water and groundwater. Direct dumping of material or polluted stormwater can negatively affect every water body it enters.*

### Algona City Council

Bill Thomas  
williamt@algonawa.gov

Lynda Osborn  
lyndao@algonawa.gov

Ed Britz  
edb@algonawa.gov

Dawn Dofelmire  
dawnd@algonawa.gov

Tim Fairley  
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The Algona City Council meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall

The Council conducts workshop sessions the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall

All meetings of the City Council are open to the public

Council Meetings  
2nd & 4th Tuesday

Visit our website at:  
[www.algonawa.gov](http://www.algonawa.gov)



### MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

The Algona Police have been conducting emphasis on speed enforcement on all city streets. We also collect data from the city speed trailer that is deployed on different streets at various times. This data is used to analyze areas of concern. We also collect information from citizens to conduct speed enforcement. Please drive responsibly and be aware of the speed limits on the streets you travel.

I am proud of the following Algona Police members for the following 2014 Police Department awards:

Police Chief's Award:.....Sergeant James Schrimpsheer  
Officer of the Year:.....Officer Rich Tison  
Leadership Award:.....Officer Terbinos Gebremariam  
Support Person of the Year:.....Records Clerk Bambi Thawsh  
Reserve Officer of the Year:.....Reserve Officer Brian Bard  
Volunteer of the Year:.....Gabe Atkins  
Explorer of the Year:.....Explorer Captain Jason Stielow

### **Algona Police Department Mission Statement**

We are dedicated to provide non-discriminatory, effective and efficient law enforcement service in protecting the life and property of the citizens of Algona, and to ensure that the constitutional rights of all persons are protected.

**Police Chief Lee Gaskill**

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### LIGHT RECYCLE WASHINGTON

Starting January 1 2015, residents can recycle mercury-containing lights at no charge by dropping them off at authorized collections sites throughout the State. This includes fluorescent tubes, compact fluorescent lights (CFL) and high intensity discharge lights (HID). Recycling mercury-containing lights protects the environment and your health by reducing the release of mercury, a potent neurotoxin.

You may drop off up to 10 lights per day at no charge. The local authorized collection sites are located at:

- Agrishop Auburn Ace Hardware, 308 West Main St, Auburn
- Bartell Drugs, 3902 "A" Street SE, Auburn

For more information, please visit [www.lightrecyclewa.org](http://www.lightrecyclewa.org), or call 877-592-2972 extension 354.



## Mayor's Message

### Administration

Our Administration Department is integral to the operation of the City and the many transactions. The administration department handles the billing and accounting for the City owned utilities (water, sewer, and storm water) plus pays all the cities bills, pays the employees, administers employee benefits, plans community events, processes permits, receives payments on utilities and accounts for all of these things.

This is accomplished by the dedication of your employees. No one has only "one job". They all answer the phones, some take payments, and someone else makes deposits and accounts for the payments. Someone has to track all the bills and see that they are paid. There are purchase orders and invoices to be matched up before payment. There are events to plan and performers to locate. And of course, there is the popcorn to be prepared every Friday.

City Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator, Diana Quinn, is proud of her Administrative Department and their "get'er done" attitude. I share that pride in the commitment of the whole department. Next time you are at City Hall, take a minute to compliment the employees that keep the city running smoothly.

### West Valley Update

It looks like the repairs for West Valley will not be completed this year. King County is running the project and they will not be ready to make the repairs this year. I had hoped for a completion this year, but the County has other projects that were ahead of our project. They should be doing the preparation and design work this year and will bid the job and select the contractor in 2016 according to a recent conversation. This delay means that we will be waiting another year for these much needed repairs, and the increase in speed limit. I am not happy with the delay, but Algona has little say in the issue and most of the costs are being paid by a federal grant. Algona is not prepared to administer a federal grant and all the rules that come with federal money!

### Sound Cities Association

I am on the Board of Directors of Sound Cities Association (SCA). I am also on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors. The SCA is an association of 36 King County Cities that have a combined population of almost 1 million people. SCA provides a voice for all the member cities. SCA has helped Algona receive recognition and a voice in regional affairs. This recognition has brought the opportunity for Algona to bring it's issues forward and be heard. For example, our only bus route was in danger of being eliminated a few years ago. With the help of other cities, we were successful in preserving route 917. This may not be important to many, but the people that rely on the bus to get to work or doctor's appointments make that bus route important to all of us!

Have a great month!

## Algona City Staff

### ADMINISTRATION (253) 833-2897

**David E. Hill**  
Mayor  
mayor@algonawa.gov

**Diana Quinn**  
City Administrator/  
Clerk Treasurer

**Laurie Ulrich**  
Deputy City Clerk/Treas

**Ken Faucher**  
Certified Permit Technician/  
Customer Service Clerk

**Julie Knauss**  
Clerical Assistant

**Kevin Caviezel**  
Event Coordinator/Economic Dev

### POLICE DEPARTMENT Non Emergency (253) 852-2121

**Lee Gaskill**  
Interim Police Chief

**James Schrimpsheer**  
Sergeant

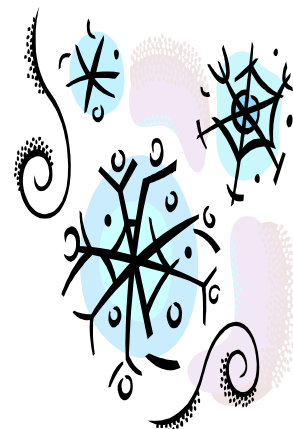
**Gil Lenger**  
**James McKay**  
**Terry Carter**  
**Terbinos Gebremariam**  
**Mike Armstrong**  
**Brian Bard**  
**Kendrick Wong**  
Police Officers

### PUBLIC WORKS (253) 833-2741

**Jimmy Griess**  
Public Works Director

**Salvador Marez**  
**John Zanoni**  
**Noah St. Martin**  
Utility Workers

**Office Hours:**  
Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM





# FEBRUARY 2015

Don't Forget  
Free Popcorn  
Fridays !

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Council Workshop 6 PM Council Meeting 7 PM	11	12 Planning Commission 6:30 PM	13	14
15	16 City Hall Closed	17 Penalties posted for past due December bills & notices mailed	18	19	20	21
22	23 Disconnect notices for past due December Bills	24 Council Workshop 6 PM Council Meeting 7 PM	25 Water shut off for past due December bills	26 Kid's Science Workshop 7-8 PM	27	28

